

# IALA RECOMMENDATION (NORMATIVE)

## R0125 VTS PORTRAYAL

**Edition 4.0**

**December 2022**

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# DOCUMENT REVISION

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Revisions to this document are to be noted in the table prior to the issue of a revised document.

Date	Details	Approval
June 2003	First issue.	Council 32
December 2004	Edition 2.0 General Revision, including name change Work underway in IMO and IEC (WG13) on the harmonization of symbols and terminology.	Council 35
June 2012	Edition 3.0 Updates to introduce various new reference documents and to reduce unnecessary technical content relating to AIS.	Council 53
September 2020	Edition 3.1 Editorial corrections.	
December 2022	Edition 4.0 Major revision: Content in Annex moved into a new guideline on Portrayal of VTS information. Content of R1014 inserted and title changed to VTS Portrayal.	Council 76

# THE COUNCIL

## RECALLING:

- 1 The function of IALA with respect to Safety of Navigation, the efficiency of maritime transport and the protection of the environment.
- 2 Article 8 of the IALA Constitution regarding the authority, duties and functions of the Council.

## NOTING

- 1 that harmonization of vessel traffic services would be enhanced by the introduction of international technical performance requirements for VTS;
- 2 that Chapter V (regulation 12) of the *International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1974 (SOLAS 74 as amended)* urges Contracting Governments planning or implementing VTS, wherever possible, to follow the guidelines adopted by the Organization by Resolution A.1158(32);
- 3 IMO Resolution A.1158(32) recognizes that:
  - a The Contracting Government should take account of future technical and other developments recognized by the Organization relating to VTS.
  - b Effective harmonized data exchange and information-sharing is fundamental to the overall operational efficiency and safety. VTS providers are encouraged to make use of automated reporting where possible.

**RECOGNIZING** that portrayal covers the interaction of users with the (technical) system in a VTS centre. This includes presentation on screen and any other visible and/or acoustical output from the system. It also includes the tactile (type, click) and acoustical input (voice) to the system,

**CONSIDERING** the proposals of the IALA Vessel Traffic Services Committee,

**ADOPTS** this revised IALA Recommendation,

## RECOMMENDS the following:

- 1 VTS portrayal should focus on VTS tasks.
- 2 Human-centred design and an ergonomic approach should be followed. Specifically:
  - a The portrayal should facilitate achieving an appropriate situational awareness and support effective decision-making.
  - b The portrayal should be designed for efficiency of operation and avoidance of information overload.
  - c The portrayal should present information to the user intuitively.
- 3 The portrayal should allow a user to control the system, input data and take action efficiently.
- 4 Portrayal in VTS should, as far as possible, be harmonized with portrayal on-board.

- 5 Where possible, the portrayal should indicate invalid and erroneous user input.
- 6 The portrayal should be able to display and log significant events.
- 7 The portrayal should support the playback of recorded data.
- 8 Where possible, the portrayal should indicate data quality.
- 9 The portrayal should be configurable to satisfy operational tasks and needs.
- 10 The portrayal should be configurable to handle local regulations and conditions.
- 11 Where possible, the design of portrayal should be independent of specific data processing, sensor hardware and software.

#### **RECOMMENDS ALSO**

- 1 To consider IALA recommendations:
  - a R0119 Establishment of a VTS
  - b R0128 Operational and Technical Performance of VTS Systems
- 2 To consider IALA guidelines:
  - a G1110 Use of Decision Support Tools for VTS Personnel,
  - b G1111 Preparation of Operational and Technical Performance Requirements for VTS Systems and Equipment
  - c **GNNN** on Portrayal of VTS Information

**INVITES** members, VTS providers and other appropriate bodies, providing or intending to provide vessel traffic services, to implement the provisions of this Recommendation.

**REQUESTS** the Vessel Traffic Services Committee or such other committee as the Council may direct to keep the Recommendation under review and to propose amendments, as necessary.